

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 2019-171-E - ORDER NO. 2019-603
SEPTEMBER 3, 2019

IN RE: Joint Petition of Aiken Electric Cooperative, Incorporated; Little River Electric Cooperative, Incorporated; Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC, and Dominion Energy South Carolina, Incorporated for the Assignment and Reassignment of Territory in McCormick, Abbeville, and Greenwood Counties and Approval of Agreements to Limit Corridor Rights)	ORDER GRANTING JOINT PETITION FOR ASSIGNMENT AND REASSIGNMENT OF TERRITORY AND LIMITATION OF CORRIDOR RIGHTS
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This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (“Commission”) on the Joint Petition of Aiken Electric Cooperative, Inc. (“Aiken Electric”), Little River Electric Cooperative, Inc. (“Little River Electric”), Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC (“DEC”), and Dominion Energy South Carolina, Inc. (“DESC”) (each individually, a “Petitioner” and jointly, “Petitioners”) for the assignment and reassignment of certain territory in McCormick, Abbeville, and Greenwood Counties, and for approval of agreements to eliminate the “corridor rights” of the Petitioners in specified areas of McCormick, Abbeville, and Greenwood Counties, pursuant to the Territorial Assignment Act, S.C. Code Ann. §§ 58-27-610 to -690 (2015). Specifically, this proceeding arises in part under the Commission’s authority in S.C. Code Ann. § 58-27-640 to assign territory and S.C. Code Ann. § 58-27-650 to reassign the service area of one electric supplier to another. Further, under S.C. Code Ann. § 58-27-620(8), the Commission may approve agreements between electric suppliers concerning corridor

rights. Section 58-27-640, inter alia, directs the Commission to assign electric territories by adequately defined boundaries, in accordance with the public convenience and necessity. Section 58-27-650 states “[the] Public Service Commission, upon agreement of the affected electric suppliers, is authorized to reassign to one electric supplier any area or portion thereof theretofore assigned to another....” S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-27-620(8) (2015) provides that “the commission shall have the authority to approve agreements between electric suppliers concerning corridor rights.”

In conformity with this authority, the Petitioners request the Commission to (A) assign and reassign certain territory in McCormick County among Aiken Electric, Little River Electric, DEC, and DESC and reclassify certain territory in McCormick County as unassigned, (B) eliminate the corridor rights of Aiken Electric, Little River Electric, DEC and DESC in McCormick County in territory assigned to the others, (C) assign and reassign certain territory in Abbeville County between Little River Electric and DESC, (D) eliminate the corridor rights of Little River Electric and DESC in Abbeville County in territory assigned to the other, (E) assign and reassign certain territory in Greenwood County among Aiken Electric, DEC, and DESC, and (F) eliminate the corridor rights of Aiken Electric, DEC, and DESC in Greenwood County in territory assigned to the others. The Joint Petition asserts that no facilities or territories of any other electric suppliers would be affected by the proposed changes and that the proposed assignment and re-assignment of territories among the Petitioners will not cause any customers to change their service. The Petitioners state that the assignment and reassignment of territory and


the abandonment of corridor rights will avoid the wasteful duplication of utility facilities and allow each of the Petitioners to operate its distribution system safely.

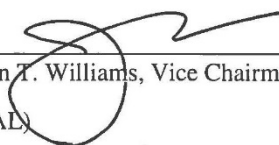
On July 12, 2019, the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff (“ORS”) filed a letter with the Commission recommending approval of the Petitioners’ request for the assignment and reassignment of certain territory in McCormick, Abbeville, and Greenwood Counties and for approval of the agreements to abandon the corridor rights in specified areas of McCormick, Abbeville, and Greenwood Counties. No protests or petitions to intervene were received in this matter, after the publishing of a Notice of Filing in newspapers of general circulation. Upon review of the Petition, the Commission approves the proposed assignment and reassignment of territory and the limitation on corridor rights as proposed in the Joint Petition.

For the foregoing reasons, the assignment and reassignment of certain territory in McCormick, Abbeville, and Greenwood Counties is granted as filed, as is the agreed upon limitation of corridor rights in specified areas of McCormick, Abbeville, and Greenwood Counties. The parties shall file with the ORS amended territorial assignment maps for McCormick, Abbeville, and Greenwood Counties reflecting the modifications requested in the Joint Petition and now approved by this Commission.

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:


Comer H. Randall, Chairman


Justin T. Williams, Vice Chairman
(SEAL)